

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Donald L. Yates

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

Filed: August 1, 2003

For: METHOD OF REDUCING WATER
SPOTTING AND OXIDE GROWTH ON A
SEMICONDUCTOR STRUCTURE

Examiner: Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Attorney Docket No.: 3375.9US
(95-0999.08/US)

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Person making Deposit: Matthew Wooton

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

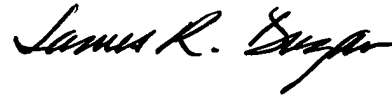
The present application is a continuation of application Serial No. 10/231,730, filed August 28, 2002, pending, which is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/427,789, filed October 27, 1999, pending, which is a divisional of application Serial No. 08/814,900, filed March 21, 1997, now U.S. Patent 6,350,322 issued February 26, 2002.

Attorney Docket No. 3375.9US (95-0999.08/US)

Pursuant to M.P.E.P. 2001.06(b), the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the information of record in the prior application, and to confirm in the first Office Action on the merits that such art has in fact been reviewed. A PTO-1449 form listing all of the information of record in the prior application is enclosed herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the above-identified application, and no certification pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) or a fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) is required.

Respectfully submitted,



James R. Duzan
Registration No. 28,393
Attorney for Applicant
TRASKBRITT
P. O. Box 2550
Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-2550
Telephone: (801) 532-1922

Date: August 1, 2003

JRD/sls:djp

Enclosure: Form PTO-1449

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Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>			Docket Number (Optional) 3375.9US (95-0999.08/US)		Application Number Not yet assigned	
			Applicant Donald L. Yates			
			Filing Date August 1, 2003		Group Art Unit Unknown	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4,132,567	01/1979	Blackwood			
	4,197,000	04/1980	Blackwood			
	4,286,541	09/1981	Blackwood			
	4,635,666	01/1987	Daley et al.			
	4,682,615	07/1987	Burkman et al.			
	4,911,761	03/1990	McConnell et al.			
	4,984,597	01/1991	McConnell et al.			
	4,997,490	03/1991	Vetter et al.			
	5,069,235	12/1991	Vetter et al.			
	5,095,927	03/1992	Thompson et al.			
	5,115,576	05/1992	Roberson, Jr. et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	0,385,536	05/1990	EP				
	61-154130	07/1986	Japan				
	4-99025	03/1992	Japan				
	4-152525	05/1992	Japan				
	4-253332	09/1992	Japan				

OTHER DOCUMENTS		(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)
		Handbook of Semiconductor Wafer Cleaning Technology, editor W. Kern, Noyes Publications, pp. 131-51 and 405-15.
		Koppenbrink et al., Particle Reduction on Silicon Wafers as a Result of Isopropyl Alcohol Vapor Displacement Drying after Wet Processing, Particles on Surfaces 2, editor K. Mittal, Plenum Press. pp. 235-43.
		Marra et al., Physical Principles of Marangoni Drying, Langmuir, Vol. 7, No. 11, pp. 2748-55.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,186,192	02/1993	Netsu et al.			
	5,328,867	07/1994	Chien et al.			
	5,371,950	12/1994	Schumacher			
	5,520,744	05/1996	Fujikawa et al.			
	5,556,479	09/1996	Bran			
	5,653,045	08/1997	Ferrell			
	5,660,642	08/1997	Britten			
	5,681,397	10/1997	Li			
	5,714,203	02/1998	Schellenberger et al.			
	5,727,578	03/1998	Matthews			
	5,752,532	05/1998	Schwenkler			
	5,845,660	12/1998	Shindo et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	4-354128	12/1992	Japan				
	5-47734	02/1993	Japan				

OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

		Leenaars et al., <i>Marangoni Drying: A New Extremely Clean Drying Process</i> , Langmuir, Vol. 6, No. 11, pp. 1701-03.
		Wong et al., "Post-Acid Rinse Enhancement Through Megasonic Quickdump Rinsing", February 1997, pps. 1-7.

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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	5,934,299	08/1999	Akatsu et al.			
	5,951,779	09/1999	Koyanagi et al.			
	5,958,146	09/1999	Mohindra et al.			
	6,001,191	12/1999	Kamikawa et al.			
	6,125,863	10/2000	Bexten			
	6,138,690	10/2000	Nakatani			
	6,350,322	02/2002	Yates			
	6,601,595	08/2003	Yates			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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